



LIGHTS, CAMERA, DIASPORA!

HOLLYWOOD / LAGOS / ATLANTA / SA

LIGHTSCAMERADIASAPORA.ORG

BIOGRAPHY: CHRISTIAN EPPS, FOUNDER / CEO

Christian Epps is the Founder/CEO Of Lights, Camera, Diaspora!, a Los Angeles, based social enterprise nonprofit that bridges the gap between the African and African-Diaspora entertainment industries. His career as a lighting designer has spanned more than three decades covering the range from major motion pictures, broadcast television, commercials, live theater, dance, music videos and special events. Directors include Ava DuVernay, Spike Lee, Hype Williams, Andrew Dosunmu. Talent include 1st Lady Michelle Obama, Pres. Bill Clinton, Michael Jackson, Barbra Streisand, Whitney Houston, Nick Cannon, and Kevin Hart. Recently he served as the gaffer for the critically acclaimed and award winning film, "Selma", featuring Oprah Winfrey and lensed by Director Of Photography Bradford Young.

In 2006 Christian was hired to design the THISDAY! Festival, which led to multiple concert and television projects every year in Nigeria. Christian spent several years working on concerts and television in Nigeria, always sharing the skills that he had acquired across the US and across the globe.

By 2012 Christian was so inspired by the vast creativity he found in Nigeria he knew there was an opportunity to create synergies between Africa and the Diaspora. Mr. Epps wanted to create more connections and strengthen the behind-the-scenes production worlds of the African Continent and the Diaspora. He wanted to institutionalize the process which required a long range vision.

In 2014, inspired by the vast creativity he found in Nigeria and the opportunity to create synergies between the U.S and Africa, he, along with the assistance of others, created Lights, Camera, Diaspora! to serve as a sustainable connection in this growing industry. Since 2015, LCD! has conducted over 25 technical workshops and masterclasses contributing knowledge and skills to more than 500 practitioners, from those that are highly skilled to those just starting out. As a result Mr. Epps has become a thought leader in bridging the ties between the U.S and African production communities. Many people and institutions are now his consultation services in this area.

On the Continent, Christian has collaborated on the THISDAY! Festival shows, Starquest and Martina Dance All for Nigerian Breweries, The Headies Awards, AFRIFF Film Festival, films for leading Nollywood producer Emem Isong, and the Africa Magic Viewers Choice Awards. Ultima Studios, House On The Rock, and Daystar Christian Center are also collaborators.

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Overview

LCD! works with private producers, governments, embassies, schools, festivals, television stations, and community development organizations, freelancers, producers and industry equipment manufacturers - wherever there are people interested in learning more production skills. LCD! has established a strong presence in the two film making capitals in the African continent, Nigeria and South Africa , LCD! has also worked in Zimbabwe, Senegal, and Rwanda.

With a passion for teaching, sharing and quality visuals, in a relatively short time, Christian has been labeled one of the go-to persons for connecting African production worlds.

Social Media

facebook, twitter, Instagram, youtube; **christianepps**
facebook; **Lights, Camera, Diaspora!**

Credited as

Christian Epps, Founder / CEO,
Lights, Camera, Diaspora!

Website

lightscameradiaspora.org

LCD! Mission Statement

Lights, Camera, Diaspora! is a non-profit social enterprise that bridges the gap between the African and African-Diaspora entertainment industries to progress the aesthetic quality and business opportunities for African film, broadcast and live events on the Continent and in the African Diaspora.

LCD! Vision Statement

Through collaborations in production partnerships, LCD! enhances skills of the African entertainment industry, expanding the aesthetic quality of African media and live events. We bring the skills acquired across the Diaspora to increase real knowledge transfer, expand opportunities to share content, resources, culture and self-expression with a worldwide market. LCD! creates opportunities for career and financial economic advancement for individuals and new market opportunities for people and companies. We provide a much-needed path for those in the Diaspora to connect with

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African businesses and cultural development, resulting in a more economically sustainable and globally unified foundation for Africans across the globe.

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